



Susan Bysiewicz
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
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- NEWS RELEASE -

BYSIEWICZ SELECTS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR FEB. 5TH PRIMARY BALLOT

17 CANDIDATES MAKE THE CUT: BIGGEST FIELD IN DECADES

Hartford: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz was joined at a news conference at the State Capitol on Monday Nov. 19th by Republican State Party Chairman Christopher Healy and Democratic State Party Chairwoman Nancy DiNardo in order to announce the names of the candidates who will appear on the ballots in Connecticut's presidential primaries on February 5th.

"Today marks the beginning of an exciting election season in Connecticut," said Bysiewicz. "Voters will have lots of choices when they go to the polls in February so I encourage all voters to start educating themselves about the candidates now."

The following Republican candidates will have their names on the ballot (order will be randomly selected in January):

- Rudolph Giuliani; Michael Huckabee; Duncan Hunter; Alan Keyes; John McCain; Ron Paul; Mitt Romney; Tom Tancredo; Fred Thompson.

The following Democratic candidates will have their names on the ballot (order will be randomly selected in January):

- Joe Biden; Hillary Clinton; Chris Dodd; John Edwards; Mike Gravel; Dennis Kucinich; Barack Obama; Bill Richardson.

In total, Secretary Bysiewicz is placing 17 candidates on the ballot directly; 9 Republicans and 8 Democrats. The Secretary will promptly notify each candidate by registered mail that his or her name will appear on the ballot. The total number of candidates for Connecticut's presidential primaries is the largest since Connecticut began holding statewide presidential primaries in 1980.

"During the next few months my office will begin an aggressive voter registration drive with the goal of having Connecticut reach 2 million active registered voters – something that has never been done before," said Bysiewicz. "The fact that our primaries will be held in February, as opposed to March, should encourage people to register, and ultimately vote. Instead of voting in March when the races may be over, Connecticut residents will have the chance to impact the outcome of these historic primary elections."

According to state statute, "A candidate's name may be placed on a party's primary ballot in one of two alternative ways:

(1) by the Secretary of the State, if in the Secretary's opinion the person's candidacy for the party's presidential nomination is generally and seriously advocated or recognized according to reports in the national or state news media ;

OR

(2) by petition signed by at least one per cent of the enrolled members of the party in the state according to the most recent *active-list* enrollment records on file in this office."

The minimum signature requirement will be calculated from enrollment figures to be compiled as of November 5, 2007. (*Estimated* using the October 31, 2006 enrollment compilation, the *approximate* requirements would be 6,600 Democrats or 4,100 Republicans.) Petitions become available today, Monday Nov. 19th at noon, and must be submitted to local Registrars of Voters by Dec. 17th.

Of note: The presidential primary does not directly select actual delegates to the national party conventions. Rather, it determines the number of delegate positions allocated to each Presidential candidate, statewide and/or by Congressional District as the case may be. This apportionment of delegate seats "won" is done according

to the applicable "proportional representation" formula, if any, prescribed by national party rules; or on a "winner takes all" basis if so authorized by such rules; or by the formula specified in the state law if the party rules provide neither a formula nor a winner-takes-all requirement.

The Secretary of the State tabulates the primary returns, calculates the allocation of delegate positions to candidates, and certifies the results to the national and state parties and to the candidates. The procedure for actual selection of the delegates is governed by the rules of each party---provided that the party must select and certify the correct number of delegates committed to each candidate as so determined.

Important dates in run-up to the primaries:

- Wednesday, January 2, 2008 Secretary Bysiewicz will determine the order of all candidates on the ballot by randomly drawing their names in a public ceremony.
- Thursday, January 31, 2008 is the mail-in deadline for new voters, and for unaffiliated voters, to *enroll in a party* for voting in its primary. For *new* voters, mail-in applications must be *postmarked*, or received by Registrar of Voters or voter registration agency, by this date. For *unaffiliated* voters, the mail-in application must be received (not merely postmarked) by the Registrar of Voters by this deadline.
- Monday, February 4, at noon is the in-person deadline for new and unaffiliated voters to register in a party for voting in the primary.

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